

**Date:** April 3, 2012

**To:** Thomas J. Bonfield, City Manager  
**Through:** Theodore L. Voorhees, Deputy City Manager  
**From:** Jose L. Lopez, Sr., Chief of Police  
**Subject:** 2012 National PAL Mentoring Initiative Grant

### **Executive Summary**

The National Association of Police Athletic/Activities Leagues, Inc. through the U.S. Department of Justice has sub-granted the City of Durham through the Durham Police Department the “2012 National PAL Mentoring Initiative Grant.” This sub-grant funding will be used to support the National PAL Established/Conventional Mentoring Program which is a program that builds a structured and trusting relationship that brings young people together with caring individuals who offer guidance, support and encouragement aimed at developing the competence and character of the mentees. The total Federal sub-grant award amount is \$15,000 with no matching funds requirement.

### **Recommendation**

The administration recommends that the City Council authorize the City Manager to accept the “2012 National PAL Mentoring Initiative” award by executing the grant documents and to adopt the “2012 National PAL Mentoring Initiative” Grant Project Ordinance, in the amount of \$15,000.

### **Background**

The National PAL Mentoring Initiative are youth mentoring programs that strengthen and expand mentoring services to at-risk/high-risk youth populations and youth with enlisted parents, through PAL Chapters. Mentors and mentees will participate in positive youth development activities through PAL Chapters, providing greater opportunities for individual/group mentoring and academic achievement.

The City of Durham’s Police Department established The Durham Police Athletic League (PAL) program in 2010. The department’s PAL program has several goals: providing youth with an alternative to crime and gang activity, building bridges with the community and creating mentoring relationships between officers and youth.

More than 500 youths ages 5 to 18 have participated in the Durham Police Athletic League. The PAL program includes basketball leagues for grades 1 through 5 and ages 15 to 18, a soccer league and a baseball league. Through PAL, the Police Department has partnered with the Durham Public Schools, Durham Parks and Recreation Department, Durham Bulls Youth Athletic League, Soccer United, the Salvation Army, White Rock Baptist Church and the John Avery Boys and Girls Club.

In 2012 the Durham Police Department became an official PAL Chapter member and through that membership the department was able to apply for and receive the 2012 National PAL Mentoring Initiative Grant. The City of Durham through the Police Department PAL program will use this funding to expand its current PALs Program to include a mentoring initiative for youth within the City of Durham. The department recognizes the PAL program as a form of community policing which is the overall concept adhered to by the Durham Police Department and supports the program to build community relations.

### **Issues/Analysis**

The main issue is whether to accept this funding opportunity from the National Association of Police Athletic/Activities Leagues, Inc. through the U.S. Department of Justice. If the City refuses to accept funding from the National Association of Police Athletic/Activities Leagues, Inc. to support the Durham Police Department's PALs mentoring initiative, it could negatively impact the possibility of future funding to the City of Durham from the National Association of Police Athletics/Activities Leagues, along with not being able to expand the existing PALs program to mentor youth within the community.

### **Alternatives**

The National Association of Police Athletic/Activities Leagues, Inc. through the U.S. Department of Justice has made this funding available to the City of Durham. The alternative would be to deny this motion which would not enable the department to add the mentoring initiative to its current PALs Program.

### **Financial Impact**

There will be no financial impact on the City of Durham's general fund by accepting this award. The budget for this funding is as follows:

Budget Item	Amount
2012 PALs Mentoring Initiative	<u>\$15,000</u>
Total Project	\$15,000

### **SDBE Summary**

This item does not require review by the office of Equal Opportunity/Equity Assurance.